**Unemployed in Tamil Nadu**

1345. SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state the number of unemployed youths in urban areas of Tamil Nadu and the steps taken to provide employment to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): As reported by the Directorate General of Employment & Training; the number of job seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, registered with the Employment Exchanges in Tamil Nadu, as on December, 2004, was 45.1 lakh. Around 49% of the job-seekers are from urban areas.

In so far as Ministry of Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation is concerned, it is implementing an employment oriented Urban Poverty alleviation programme named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) on all India basis including Tamil Nadu to provide the employment opportunities to the urban poor living below the poverty line. The scheme of SJSRY strives to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed or underemployed poor through setting up of micro enterprises and also through provision of Wage employment by utilizing their labour for construction of useful public assets.

Since the inception of the scheme on 1.12.1997, cumulatively, as on 30.9.2005, number of beneficiaries assisted to set up micro enterprises is 33,735 in the State of Tamil Nadu and 18, 274 urban poor have been provided skill training under SJSRY.

**Funds for SJSRY**

1346. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite growing urban employment and poverty Rs. 300.53 crores meant for Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) was lying unspent with States and UTs upto March 21, 2005;

(b) if so, whether the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Urban Development has also examined this issue and has called for in depth study to find out reasons for non-utilisation of funds within time limit;